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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Agenda items 20 (b), 71 (b) and 112 (c)
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS
REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: REGIONAL CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 11 April 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you, upon instructions from my Government, the Arabic, English and French official texts of the Political Charter, representing a peace agreement signed at Khartoum on Wednesday, 10 April 1996, between the Government of the Sudan and the two rebel factions, the South Sudan Independence Movement, led by Dr. Riak Machar, and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, led by Lt. Col. Karbino Kuanyin.

I should be very grateful if the present letter and its enclosures were circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 20 (b), 71 (b) and 112 (c), and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hamid Ali ELTINAY
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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ANNEX

Political Charter, signed at Khartoum on 10 April 1996

This charter has been concluded between the Government of the Sudan and the South Sudan Independence Movement/Army (SSIM/A).

In recognition of the series of previous peace talks, the two parties have pledged to put an end to the ongoing civil war in the Sudan. They agreed on the provisions mentioned below in this charter.

1. To resolve the conflict in the Sudan through peaceful and political means.

2. The unity of the Sudan with its known boundaries shall be preserved, its entity shall be secured against all internal and external dangers. The two parties shall endeavour to keep peace, justice and supremacy of values of right, goodness and virtue.

3. After full establishment of peace, stability and a reasonable level of social development in the south, and at the end of the interim period, a referendum shall be conducted by the people of the southern Sudan to determine their political aspirations.

4. Recognizing the constitutional development, implementation of the federal system and political practice based on the values of participator democracy, the two parties shall endeavour to boost progress in these fields in the light of changing situations.

5. Citizenship shall be the basis of rights and duties in furtherance of the values of justice, equity, freedom and human rights.

6. Sharia and custom shall be the sources of legislation. However, States may enact legislation complementary to the federal law in matters peculiar to those States.

7. Cultural diversity in the Sudan is recognized; Sudanese people are encouraged to freely express their values.

8. Freedom of religion and belief shall be observed and a suitable atmosphere shall be maintained for practising worship, dawa, proselytization and preaching. No citizen shall be coerced to embrace any faith or religion.

9. Social development is an extreme priority for the achievement of which the Government shall plan for confidence-building and expediting the process of alleviation of poverty, ignorance and illiteracy. The States shall also cater for provision of knowledge and satisfaction.

10. Power and national wealth shall equitably be shared for the benefit of the citizens in the country. The details shall be worked out by the two parties.

11. A coordinating council shall be formed between the southern States for better implementation of the subsequent Peace Agreement.

12. The two parties shall work together for the stability and improvement of living conditions in the war-affected areas according to the provisions of the subsequent Peace Agreement. Both sides shall carry the duty of implementing the security arrangement, resettlement, reconstruction, development and preservation of rights and duties.

13. The Sudan shall interact with African and Arab nations and the world community on the basis of the effective Sudanese identity for the benefit of the country.

14. Sudanese in general and Southerns in particular shall be mobilized to rally behind and support the subsequent peace agreement.

For the Sudan Government:

(Signed)

Maj. Gen. Al Zubeir Mohammed Salih
First Vice-President of the
Republic of the Sudan

For SSIM/A:

(Signed)

Commander Dr. Riak Machar Teny Dhurgon
Chairman of NLC SSIM and Commander-in-Chief of SSIA

For SPLM/A (BGG):

(Signed)

Commander Karbino Kuanyin
Chairman of SPLM/A (BGG)